



Date: March 10, 2022
To: Board of Directors
From: Rick Benson, Interim General Manager
Subject: Update on New Waste Collection Procedures

Recommendation:

Receive the following report regarding the rollout of new waste collection procedures.

Background:

In September 2016 the California legislature approved and the Governor signed Senate Bill 1383. The purpose of this bill is to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases produced by the California waste stream by diverting most organic materials away from California landfills. All California communities are required to comply with this legislation.

On November 11, 2021 your Board approved an amendment to the Franchise Agreement to bring the Kensington community into compliance with the law. Doing so involved several changes to the waste collection practices in Kensington.

Discussion:

As of February 1, 2022, Bay View Refuse instituted new procedures for the collection of solid waste within Kensington. All customers were provided with collection bins as required by the new law. Everyone now has a gray bin, a green bin and a blue bin. Previously, the green bin was used exclusively for yard waste. Now, in addition to green waste, the green bin is used for the collection of all organic materials. Primarily, this change means that kitchen food waste is also placed in the green bin. The blue bin is used for most recyclable items such as paper, plastic containers and cans while the gray bin is for all other waste.

Bay View began the rollout on January 24. Over a 10-day period, hundreds of old cans and bins were collected and several hundred new bins were distributed. Bay View reports that while there were many questions to be answered, the community was extremely supportive and cooperative.

All organic waste is now being diverted from landfills and being processed in accordance with the new regulations.

Future Actions:

Other aspects of the new process will be forthcoming. There will be periodic household hazardous waste collections provided to Kensington residents. Bay View is also planning to bring compost to Kensington for the public to pick up and use.

Administratively, another amendment to the franchise agreement will be necessary. That amendment will mandate that Bay View transport all organic waste to a properly designated location for processing. The amendment will also formally charge Bay View with responsibility to check that customers are properly disposing of their waste as required by the new legislation and notify the district of any instances of noncompliance.